

EAC END OF YEAR REPORT FY2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly, DO Chairperson

Brian Walker, Vice Chairperson

Zoe Warner, PhD, Secretary

Brendan Phillips

Tiffany Brouillet

New Appointment- Joanne Zhou

New Appointment- Christine Hafer

BUDGET FY2022

FY2022 Annual Budget- \$1000

End Balance FY2022- \$225.00

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION TO MBC

-ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Grant Funding - recommended sustainability projects within the borough - EV Charging stations, LED lighting in Borough Hall and curbside composting.

-Permanent Recycling Bins- Dual recycling/trash bins placed in Burke and Quann Parks as a pilot program. Potential future bins throughout the borough

-Community Composting Pilot Program- 100 participants for 1 year. Curbside compost pail pickup weekly. Trial to spark interest in composting, healthier gardens, and more sustainable way of life within the borough

-Quann Park Rain Garden- rain garden development, planting, and educational placard placement completed

SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES DISCUSSED

-Energy efficient borough holiday lighting- LED, solar- discussions ongoing

-Solar panels for borough hall- cost ineffective at this time, will continue to reevaluate

-National Solar Tour- would like to get more borough families involved in the project, so far one family is actively involved

-Homegrown National Park- initiatives discussed to encourage HNP. Joint effort with P&R, MPL, Shade Tree, Borough Hall- encourage and promote individual actions through community wide programs. Opened the discussion regarding native trees and other plantings for new construction, borough owned property

-Stormwater Master Plan- work along with the Planning Commission to review ordinance and revise as needed to protect against the current detrimental effects of stormwater in the borough. Plan to present to MBC when complete

-Rainwater issue at TideWater - recommended a rain garden, other changes to improve water flow, including "No Mow" zone

-Comprehensive Plan 2020- continued reevaluation of how well we/EAC is adopting the ideas on the plan as they relate to this committee

ON GOING INITIATIVE DISCUSSIONS

- Dark Skies- EAC to develop an ordinance and have MBC adopt such ordinance. Put on hold due to time constraints. To be brought forward in 2023
- PA Bird Town Initiative- program application, goal is to adopt its initiatives and present to MBC for future ordinance. Promotes community-based conservation actions to create healthier environments for birds and wildlife.
- Shade Tree Code Enforcement- implement fines as per ordinance for tree removal/non-replacement on borough properties

EVENTS

- Tree Sapling Give-Away- Bartlett Tree Experts donated 100 sapling trees for distribution. Event did not go well. Poor turnout was partly due to bad weather. Remainder saplings planted around Borough Hall
- Rain Garden Demonstration- good turnout of participants for the morning long event. Only part of the basin was able to be planted during the event due to contractor issues
- Memorial Day Parade- participant
- Perennial Party- Co-sponsor with P&R
- Christmas on King- participant; joint effort with P&R- make your own recycled decorations. Excellent turn out
- Cabin Fever- participant in P&R event- used recycled paper to make origami figures

NON-EVENT PROJECTS

- Joint committee consortium- work along with other committees, businesses, etc in projects, initiatives for a more holistic approach toward sustainability, conservation, and green initiatives
- Quarterly Newsletter Article submissions
- Social Media- working on expanding our social media presence, increasing our visibility. Christine Hafer volunteered to be the PR go-to person for EAC.

DONATIONS

CRC- \$500

CONCLUSION

EAC was very busy FY2022. We had some very important changes to the roster. Committee members involved in EAC actively contribute and have been initiating and working on programs that are consistent with the 10-year Comprehensive Plan. We have opened the door to several new environmentally healthy enterprises, including the Rain Garden and PA Bird Town. The EAC hopes to involve the borough residents in their effort to make Malvern more environmentally sustainable and wildlife friendly by enacting programs such as the Community Composting Program, Home Grown National Park and the National Solar Tour. More comprehensive action items on the horizon include reevaluation of stormwater in the borough, creating a more efficient borough hall and other public spaces, and regeneration of biodiversity of native plants and invasives. Further work with the Borough to increase its use of native plants and trees will continue to be discussed.

EAC is looking forward to a successful FY2023 with many more initiatives and programs, utilizing our neighbors and the borough itself to put Malvern Borough on the map as a place that

recognizes the negative and positive impact of human activities and works to restore changes that have triggered climate change, soil erosion, air quality, and wildlife habitats.

Submitted by:
Helise Bichefsky, DO
Chairperson
EAC